

Message Text

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15

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-04

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSO-00 /063 W

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P R 261132Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1919

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

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D/PW FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA

SUBJ: AMCIT CHARLES M. DEAN

REF: A) VIENTIANE 9221

B) VIENTIANE 9212

1. AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK DISCUSSED DEAN/
SHARMAN CASE WITH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PHOUMI
VONGVICHIT DECEMBER 26 AND RELATED SUBSTANCE TO EMBOFF
IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS. AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK MET
WITH PHOUMI FOR HOUR AND A HALF AND RELATED DETAILS OF
DEAN/SHARMAN CAPTURE ALONG LINES OF PARA 2 REFTEL A.
HE FURTHER STATED THAT GOA "CANNOT ACCEPT STATEMENT THEY
ARE NOT THERE" APPARENTLY REFERRING TO LAO PATRIOTIC
FRONT LETTER REFTEL B, AND THAT GOA EXPECTS AN ANSWER
FROM THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. AMBASSADOR REFERRED TO IM-
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PENDING VISIT OF PNGU MINISTER OF ECONOMY SOTH PHETRASY

TO AUSTRALIA IN JANUARY AND POSSIBILITY OF DIFFICULTIES
STEMMING FROM PUBLIC REACTION IF SHARMAN NOT RELEASED
BY THAT TIME.

2. PHOUMI REPLIED THAT PATHET LAO HAD ONLY EXAMINED
HIN BOUN AND PAKADING AREAS AND SAID HE WOULD INFORM
SAM NEUA OF GOA'S SERIOUS VIEW OF INCIDENT AND REQUEST
THAT SOMEONE VISIT KHAM KEUT AREA TO CHECK AGAIN. HE
MENTIONED THAT IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO GET AN ANSWER
AND THAT ANSWER MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE SOTH'S
DEPARTURE TO AUSTRALIA THIRD WEEK IN JANUARY. PHOUMI
DID NOT ADMIT THAT PL HOLD DEAN/SHARMAN AND REFUSED TO
ACCEPT PARCEL FOR SHARMAN. HE DID STATE THAT HE WOULD
APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL DETAILS THAT BECOME AVAILABLE.
REFERRING TO SOTH'S VISIT, PHOUMI EXPRESSED CONCERN
ABOUT FUTURE GOA/PGNU RELATIONS AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY
WOULD CONTINUE IN THE SAME MANNER AS PREVIOUSLY.
AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK REPLIED THAT RELATIONS WOULD BE
UNDER SOME STRAIN.

3. AMBASSADOR BORTHWICK PLANS TO MEET WITH SOTH BEFORE
LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR AUSTRALIA AND REVIEW THE BIDDING
AGAIN. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE PHOUMI'S STATEMENT ABOUT
LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO GET ANSWER FROM LPF IN KHAM
KEUT AREA.

4. BOATMAN, NOW IDENTIFIED, DEPARTED THAKHEK ON DECEMBER
24 AND IS DUE IN PAKSANE DECEMBER 28. FAR OFFICERS ARE
AT PAKSANE AWAITING BOATMAN AND WILL BRING HIM TO VIENTIANE
FOR DISCUSSIONS.

5. PLEASE PASS FOREGOING TO HOWARD DEAN. PRESS CONFERENCE
SHOULD BE DELAYED PENDING DEVELOPMENT OF DETAILS FROM
DISCUPIGPNMITH BOATMAN AND OTHER EFFORTS NOW UNDER WAY.
WHITEHOUSE

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